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## 12/14/2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman Federal Communications Commission 455 12th Street, Southwest Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

CMAC is a non-profit organization that manages the Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) channels on behalf of the Cities of Fresno and Clovis, California. Our community has benefited greatly from these channels in just a short period of time. Our community media center is rather new, having opened in 2012, however the impact has been considerable – over 2,500 hours of skill development for our residents and over 5,200 hours of hyper-local programming created. Our staff and volunteers have shined a light on countless unique community and cultural events and on the hardworking non-profit organizations of our area who would otherwise struggle to effectively communicate their stories. This results in a higher quality of life for our residents.

This was the intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining "franchise fee" in an overly broad fashion to include "in-kind" support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, – something that was never the intent of the Cable Act.

We appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

**Bryan Harley** 

Interim Executive Director

Community Media Access Collaborative